

In addition, support for claim 55 can be found in example 30. The applicants have rewritten the claims in order to overcome the 35 USC §112 rejections.

Claims 35-57 are now in the application. Claims 35, 48, 49, 53 and 54 are the independent claims. A fee of \$84.00 is enclosed for the extra independent claim over the four previously paid for. A fee of \$54.00 is enclosed for the three extra total claims over twenty.

Attorney for applicants wishes to thank Examiner Dote for the courtesy shown during an interview on September 24, 2002. The applicants believed that the interview helped expedite prosecution.

Claims 16-34 were rejected under 35 USC §112 first and second paragraphs. Claim 34 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over WO 97/05529 hereinafter referred to as ("WO '529"). To the extent that these amendments do not overcome the 35 USC §112 first and second paragraph rejections, the applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

35 U.S.C. §112 FIRST AND SECOND PARAGRAPH REJECTIONS

The applicants have amended page 13 of the specification as suggested by the Examiner and deleted the new matter.

The applicants have amended the term "electrolytic solution" to "carrier liquid". "Carrier liquid" is a term clear to one of ordinary skill in the art. At page 3 of the applicants' specification, refers to the term "solvent" for the electrolytic solution. It is clear from the examples that the solvent is the same as the electrolyte solution which uses a hydrocarbon ISOPAR. The solvent is a carrier liquid. The term "carrier liquid" is a well recognized term of art for the liquid solvent. The term "carrier liquid" is referred to in some of the cited patents, such as US Patent 5,843,613 at col. 7, lines 12-27 and refers

to isoparaffin solvents, such as isobar; US Patent 5,019,477 at col. 4, lines 42-44, and col. 6, lines 27-49 refers to ISOPAR as the carrier liquid and US 4,659,640 refers to carrier liquids and specifically lists ISOPAR as one of the carrier liquids (see col. 2, lines 49-60).

The Examiner has questioned which methods 4 or 5 examples 20-30 were carried out. The applicants are in the process of reviewing the records to determine which method was followed in the examples and will amend the specification accordingly.

The applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner that hybrid mixtures is supported in the original application in the original claim 2. As the Examiner has correctly pointed out, there is no other disclosure in the specification for hybrid mixtures. Since the original claim 2 provides adequate support for the phrase "hybrid mixtures" the applicants believe that the claim is supported. However, in order to expedite prosecution the applicants have amended the claim. For the above reasons, these rejections should be withdrawn.

REJECTION OVER WO '529

Claim 34 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over WO 97/05529 hereinafter referred to as ("WO '529"). The applicants are in the process of procuring a certified English translation of their Japanese priority application, which the applicants believe will establish a constructive reduction to practice for claim 34 (new claim 54) of December 26, 1996 which is prior to the February 1997 publication date of WO '529. Therefore, WO '529 would not be an applicable reference. For the above reasons, the applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

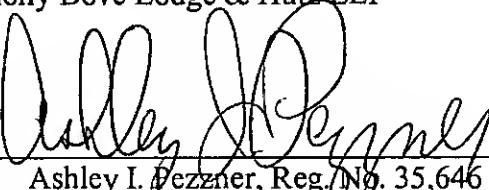
A three month extension of time has been paid. No additional fees are due. If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, including any fees required for an additional extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136, such an

extension is requested and the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-2775.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants believe that the claims are patentable over the references cited and applied by the Examiner and a prompt and favorable action is solicited. The applicants believe that these claims are in condition for allowance, however, if the Examiner disagrees, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner telephone the undersigned at (302) 888-6270.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX 1

Please amend the last paragraph at page 12 through the first full paragraph at page 13 as follows:

At least two methods are available for introducing the carboxyl groups into the resin. One is a method of oxidizing an alkyl group, such as methyl, at the end of the resin by the fusing air oxidation method to convert it into a carboxyl group. With this method, however, the polyolefin resin of a cyclic structure that has been synthesized using a metallocene catalyst has few branches, making it difficult to introduce many carboxyl groups into this resin. The other method is to add a peroxide to the resin, and react maleic anhydride or other ester and ester derivatives, amides and other polar unsaturated compounds with the resulting radical portion. With this method, it is theoretically possible to introduce many carboxyl groups onto the resin, but an increased proportion of introduction results in yellowing of the resin, making its transparency poor. If the use of the product is restricted to a toner, therefore, it is preferred to introduce 1 to 15% by weight, based on the resin, of maleic anhydride. The same improvement can be achieved by introducing [polar functional group such as cyano groups] hydroxyl groups or amino groups by a known method.

To improve the Fixing-ability of the toner, a crosslinked structure may be introduced into the polyolefin resin having a cyclic structure. One of the methods for introducing this crosslinked structure is to add a diene monomer, such as norbornadiene or cyclohexadiene, together with [ester, amide, sulfide, ether, or] the acyclic olefin and the cycloolefin, followed by reacting the system, thereby obtaining a terpolymeric polyolefin having a cyclic structure. As a result of this method, the resin has a terminal showing activity even without a crosslinking agent. A known chemical reaction such as

oxidation or epoxidation, or the addition of a crosslinking agent to form a crosslinked structure, results in the functioning of the resin. - -

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